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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
10/087,331	03/01/2002	Susan M. F. Davis	10012623-1	3076

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HEWLETT-PACKARD COMPANY  
Intellectual Property Administration  
P.O. Box 272400  
Fort Collins, CO 80527-2400

EXAMINER

BASS, JON M

ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
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3639

DATE MAILED: 11/03/2005

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

<b>Office Action Summary</b>	<b>Application No.</b>	<b>Applicant(s)</b>	
	10/087,331	DAVIS, SUSAN M. F.	
	<b>Examiner</b>	<b>Art Unit</b>	
	Jon Bass	3639	

**-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --**

**Period for Reply**

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) OR THIRTY (30) DAYS, WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

**Status**

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 01 March 2002.
- 2a) ☒ This action is **FINAL**.                      2b) ☐ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

**Disposition of Claims**

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-20 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1-20 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

**Application Papers**

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☐ The drawing(s) filed on \_\_\_\_\_ is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.  
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).  
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

**Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119**

- 12) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All    b) ☐ Some \* c) ☐ None of:
1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. \_\_\_\_\_.
3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

\* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

**Attachment(s)**

- |   |   |
|---|---|
| 1) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)             | 4) <input type="checkbox"/> Interview Summary (PTO-413)                     |
| 2) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)    | Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____  |
| 3) <input type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08) | 5) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152) |
| Paper No(s)/Mail Date _____   | 6) <input type="checkbox"/> Other: _____                                    |

***Response to Amendment***

1. This is in response to an amendment filed on August 19, 2005 regarding patent letter filed on March 01, 2002. In the amendment, claims 1-20 are pending. No claims have been amended in this application.
2. Corrections to the Specification due to grammatical reasons has been acknowledged and accepted.

***Response to Arguments***

3. Applicant arguments filed on August 19, 2005 have been fully considered but they are not persuasive.
4. Applicants argues that the prior art fails to teach the inventive concept of "a postage system configured to apply *postage* and a network address to objects in a *postage filed* on the objects wherein the postage field comprises an area reserved on the objects for the postage". The Examiner respectfully disagrees with the characteristics described by the applicant for the following reasons. Knowles teaches and displays a web-based package routing, tracking and delivery system and method that uses URL/ZIP CODE encoded bar code symbols "on parcels and packages", see {abstract}. Knowles discloses in Fig 18, elements (a-c). Knowles furthers displays that a bar-code label is attached to the package. In addition an URL is attached to access the internet server, then the information accessed is used for delivery and tracking purposes. Also Knowles discloses in figure 6B

different fields such as “date field”, “title”, “network address”, and “URL”. In Fig 13B, Knowles discloses in elements 55(B-C), which one skilled in the art at the time would know that when dealing with parcels or packages that postage is located or incorporated into the URL/barcode, or a designated field. Within the body of the claims, nowhere is it cited that “displaying the amount of money that has been paid for the package to be delivered” is a main focal point of the invention. Within the RDBMS contains information concerning packages, shipping costs and tracking and the like. One skilled in the art would be cognizant that once the URL/bar code is scanned all related information can be accessed and viewed, either by the authority or the customer.

5. For the reasons above and the reasons stated in the Office Action the rejection remains.
6. Below is a replica of the Office Action.

***Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102***

The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless –

(e) the invention was described in a patent granted on an application for patent by another filed in the United States before the invention thereof by the applicant for patent, or on an international application by another who has fulfilled the requirements of paragraphs (1), (2), and (4) of section 371(c) of this title before the invention thereof by the applicant for patent.

**Claims 1-20 are** rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(e) as being anticipated by Carl Knowles et al.(US Patent No. 5,869,819) hereinafter referenced as Knowles.

**As Per Claim 1:**

Knowles discloses a method and system wherein, an information delivery system, [delivery system, fig.10, element 53], comprising:

a postage system, [packaging routing, tracking and delivering system; fig.10, element 53] configured to apply postage, [information structure, fig.13B] and a network address, [URL code field, fig.12B] to objects in a postage field, [URL code field; fig.12A, element 57A] on the objects wherein the postage field comprises an area reserved on the objects for the postage and wherein the objects are delivered to users, [fig.13B; delivery field]; and

a server system, [fig.10, element 51; internet server] configured to receive a first message over the Internet from one of the users, wherein the first message is addressed to the network address, process the first message to retrieve information, and transfer the information in a second message over the Internet to the one of the users, [fig.10, elements 52, 53; package routing system shipping computer system], and [fig.17, element 54, 56, 57; information accessed].

**As Per Claim 2:**

Knowles discloses a method and system wherein, the information delivery system, [delivery system, fig.10, element 53] wherein the postage system, [packaging routing, tracking and delivering system; fig.10, element 53] is further configured to apply the network address in the postage field at a consistent location on the objects, [assign the identification number a unique status encoded information storage location; fig.14C] to enable the users to automatically scan the postage field for the network address, [fig.17, package delivery process].

**As Per Claim 3:**

Knowles discloses a method and system wherein, the information delivery system, [delivery system, fig.10, element 53] further comprising a user system configured to automatically scan the network address from the postage field, [package delivery process; fig. 17] and [URL code field], generate the first message, and transfer the first message over the Internet, [use URL to access internet server to obtain information stored and access internet server to send confirmation].

**As Per Claim 4:**

Knowles discloses a method and system wherein, the information delivery system, [delivery system, fig.10, element 53] wherein the postage system, [packaging routing, tracking and delivering system; fig.10, element 53] comprises a postage printing device, [fig.1, printer, element 35] configured to receive weight information, [information structure form, fig.13A] for the objects and apply the postage based on the weight information.

**As Per Claim 5:**

Knowles discloses a method and system wherein, the information delivery system wherein the network address comprises an Internet address, [encode the URL, fig.14d].

**As Per Claim 6:**

Knowles discloses a method and system wherein, the information delivery system, [delivery system, fig.10, element 53] wherein the network address comprises a domain name, [encode the URL, fig.14d].

**As Per Claim 7:**

Knowles discloses a method and system wherein, A method of operating an information delivery system, [delivery system, fig.10, element 53], the method comprising:

applying postage and a network address, [URL encoded barcode symbol printed with corresponding human readable URL content , col.6, lines 5-10] to objects in a postage field, [URL code field, fig 12B] on the objects wherein the postage field comprises an area reserved on the objects for the postage and wherein the objects are delivered to users, [read bar code label on package using package delivery computer system, fig 18A];

receiving a first message over the Internet from one of the users wherein the first message is addressed to the network address; [internet system that is connected to provider for programmed bar-code surfing information, col.2, lines 61-65]

processing the first message to retrieve information; and

transferring the information in a second message over the Internet to the one of the users, [URL access the internet server and update the location within the system, fig.16C].

**As Per Claim 8:**

Knowles discloses a method and system wherein, further comprising applying the network address to the objects at a consistent location, [assign the identification number a unique status encoded information], in the postage field, [URL code field, fig.12A] to enable the users to automatically scan the postage field for the network address, [URL code, fig.8].

**As Per Claim 9:**

Knowles discloses a method and system wherein, further comprising automatically scanning the network address from the postage field,[ shipping computer system, fig.10, element 52], generating the

first message, and transferring the first message over the Internet, [information storage location on a web page of the internet].

**As Per Claim 10:**

Knowles discloses a method and system wherein, further comprising receiving weight information, [information structure form, fig 13A] for the objects and applying the postage based on the weight information, [apply label to the package, fig.14e] and [read barcode label, fig 16].

**As Per Claim 11:**

Knowles discloses a method and system wherein, the network address comprises an Internet address, [encode the URL, fig 14D].

**As Per Claim 12:**

Knowles discloses a method and system wherein, the network address comprises a domain name, [the URL for www information resource, see fig 7B].

**As Per Claim 13:**

Knowles discloses a method and system wherein, further comprising generating a postmark that includes the network address, [assign package identification number, fig 14C].

**As Per Claim 14:**

Knowles discloses a method and system wherein, further comprising paying a delivery service to cancel the postage using the postmark that includes the network address, [information structure, fig 13B]



and [package routing subsystem, fig 53].

**As Per Claim 15:**

Knowles discloses a method and system wherein, a software product, [web link computer system having browser program having URL menu, col.4, lines 14-20] for a processing system that is configured to operate with a postage system, the software product comprising, [connects client system to the server, col.4, lines 8-12]:

application software configured when executed by the processing system to direct the processing system to generate an instruction to apply postage and a network address to objects, [assign the identification number a unique status encoded information storage location; fig.14C] in a postage field on the objects wherein the postage field comprises an area reserved on the objects for the postage, [URL code filed, fig 12B] and wherein the objects are delivered to users, transfer the instruction to the postage system,[program having URL menu, col.4, lines 14-20] receive a first message over the Internet from one of the users wherein the first message is addressed to the network address, process the first message to retrieve information, and transfer the information in a second message over the Internet to the one of the users, [information electronically transmitted to sites over the internet, col.4, lines 34-40]; and a storage media configured to store the application software, [URL access the internet server and update location information within the system, fig 16C].

**As Per Claim 16:**

Knowles discloses a method and system wherein, the application software, [internet browser program, col.4, lines 14-20] is further configured to direct the processing system to generate the instruction to apply the network address, [apply the label to the package, fig 14E] at a consistent location in the postage field to enable the users to automatically scan the postage field, [URL field, fig 12A] for

the network address, [assign the identification number a unique status encoded information storage location, fig 14C].

**As Per Claim 17:**

Knowles discloses a method and system wherein, the application software, [internet browser program, col.4, lines 14-20] is further configured to direct the processing system to receive weight information, [information structure form, fig 13A] for the objects, generate a postage instruction based on the weight information, [packaging routing subsystem, fig. 10, element 53], and transfer the postage instruction to the postage system, [information electronically transmitted, col.4, lines 34-40] .

**As Per Claim 18:**

Knowles discloses a method and system wherein, the software product wherein the network address comprises an Internet address, [encoded URL, fig 14D].

**As Per Claim 19:**

Knowles discloses a method and system wherein, the network address comprises a domain name, [encoded URL, fig 14D].

**As Per Claim 20:**

Knowles discloses a method and system wherein the application software is further configured to direct the processing system to change the network address applied to the objects, [use the URL to access the internet server and update the location information within the system, fig 16C].

***Conclusion***

**THIS ACTION IS MADE FINAL.** Applicant is reminded of the extension of time policy as set forth in 37 CFR 1.136(a).

A shortened statutory period for reply to this final action is set to expire **THREE MONTHS** from the mailing date of this action. In the event a first reply is filed within **TWO MONTHS** of the mailing date of this final action and the advisory action is not mailed until after the end of the **THREE-MONTH** shortened statutory period, then the shortened statutory period will expire on the date the advisory action is mailed, and any extension fee pursuant to 37 CFR 1.136(a) will be calculated from the mailing date of the advisory action. In no event, however, will the statutory period for reply expire later than **SIX MONTHS** from the mailing date of this final action.

Any concerns in regard to this communication, the examiner **Jon Bass** can be reached at **(571) 272-6905** between the hours of **9-6pm Monday through Friday**. The fax number for the establishment where the application is being process is **(571) 273-8300**.

If an attempt to reach the examiner is unsuccessful for any reason, the examiner's immediate supervisor, **John Hayes** can be reached at **(571) 272-6708**.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see [http:// pair-direct.uspto.gov](http://pair-direct.uspto.gov). Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-271-9197 (toll free).

**Any response to this action should be mailed to:**

Application/Control Number: 10/087,331

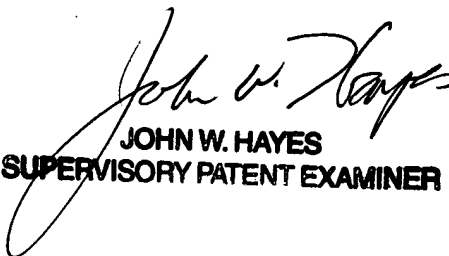
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Commissioner of Patents and Trademarks

C/O Technology Center 3600

Washington, D.C. 20231



**JOHN W. HAYES**  
**SUPERVISORY PATENT EXAMINER**